



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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AN: 0800374-0885

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 10-14 ADS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-07 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 A-05 ACCA-12
CMB-01 TRSE-00 SSM-03 SSN-02 RP-10 SR-04 OCT-02
SY-05 1136

-----039758 052310Z /61
O R 041300Z AUG 80 DELAY DUE SERVICE ACTION BY OCT

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1936
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BEIJING
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY DACCA
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL KARACHI
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USICA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
CINCEUR
CINCPAC

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/HR

REVIEWED BY Jim Kelly DATE 8/14/89
CLASSIFIED () UNCLASSIFIED
() DECLASSIFIED IN PART
() Non-responsive info.
FOR NO OF EXEMPTIONS

Authority to:
() CLASSIFIED () OADR
() DOWNGRADE TS to () B or () C, OADR

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E.O. 11065: GDS 8/4/86 (GRIFFIN, GEORGE G. S.) OR-M
TAGS: ASEC PDIP PEPR PINS PINT SHUM AF
SUBJECT: SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN

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KARACHI ALSO FOR RSS; CINCEUR AND CINCPAC ALSO FOR PC-ADS

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REF: KABUL 2246✓

1. (C - ENTIRE TEXT)

2. SUMMARY: THE SOVIET OFFENSIVE IN WARDAK PROVINCE SEEMS TO HAVE WOUND DOWN. HUNDREDS OF INVOLVED VEHICLES HAVE RETURNED TO KABUL. FRESH FIGHTING REPORTEDLY HAS BROKEN OUT IN LOGAR PROVINCE SOUTH OF KABUL; HELICOPTER AND ARMORED TRAFFIC IN THAT DIRECTION HAS INCREASED NOTICEABLY IN THE PAST THREE DAYS. WHAT IS LEFT OF THE 14TH DIVISION AT GHAZNI HAS ACCEPTED A NEW COMMANDER. THE OFFICER IN CHARGE OF THE WITHDRAWING SOVIET TROOPS IS SAID TO HAVE WARNED RESIDENTS OF WARDAK THAT IF HIS TROOPS WERE FORCED TO RETURN THERE WOULD BE NO MERCY. REFUGEES FROM SOVIET OFFENSIVES IN LOGAR AND WARDAK PROVINCES HAVE CONTINUED TO ENTER THE CITY, CAUSING CONCERN ABOUT THE SECURITY SITUATION HERE. THE SOVIETS WERE PARTICULARLY WORRIED AFTER SOME RUSSIANS WERE KILLED AND THE POLICE ARE INTENSIFYING SPOT CHECKS OF VEHICLES AND INDIVIDUALS. IN OUTLYING AREAS, FRESH TROUBLES HAVE BEEN REPORTED IN JALALABAD AND HERAT. GASOLINE SUPPLIES IN KABUL HAVE BEEN DISRUPTED AND RATIONING WAS IMPOSED ON AUGUST 1. THE REGIME ADDED A NEW TWIST TO ITS ONGOING ANTI-US PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN BY ALLEGING THAT CBS'S WALTER CRONKITE ORDERED THE DEATHS OF THREE "WORKERS" IN NANGARHAR PROVINCE. THE DRA OBTAINED AGREEMENT FOR AT LEAST TWO AMBASSADORS OVER THE WEEKEND AND THERE ARE RUMORS THAT AT LEAST FIVE TOP KHALAIS WILL BE EXPORTED AS ENVOYS ELSEWHERE. THE LOG JAM ON VISAS FOR USG PERSONNEL WAS BROKEN, AND THERE ARE NOW SOME 45 AMERICANS IN THE COUNTRY. END SUMMARY.

3. ALL OF OUR SOURCES ARE REPORTING THAT LAST WEEK'S SOVIET
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OFFENSIVE IN WARDAK PROVINCE HAD ENDED. THE STREETS OF KABUL HAVE ECHOED DAY AND NIGHT SINCE AUGUST 1 WITH THE SOUNDS OF ARMOR AND TRUCKS RETURNING FROM THAT DIRECTION. HOWEVER, HELICOPTER GUNSHIPS HAVE BEEN SEEN HEADING IN A NEW DIRECTION -- SOUTH TOWARD LOGAR AND GARDEZ -- DURING THE SAME PERIOD. STORIES HAVE BEGUN TO FILTER IN ABOUT FIGHTING IN VILLAGES IN LOGAR PROVINCE NORTH OF THE TOWN OF PUL-I-ALAM. ON AUGUST 3, A CONVOY OF AT LEAST 33 APC'S AND 15 OTHER VEHICLES (ALL DUSTY AND BUTTONED UP) PASSED THE EMBASSY FROM THAT DIRECTION, APPARENTLY RETURNING TO THEIR BASE NEAR

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KABUL AIRPORT

4. REFUGEES FROM THOSE TWO PROVINCES HAVE CONTINUED TO FLOW INTO THE CITY, BRINGING WITH THEM PROBABLY EXAGGERATED TALES OF HORROR. ACCORDING TO THE RELATIVES OF SOME OF OUR AFGHAN CONTACTS, MANY OTHER VILLAGERS ARE MISSING AND PRESUMED HIDING IN THE HILLS IN THOSE PROVINCES. THE STREETS OF THE OLDER PARTS OF KABUL ARE FILLING UP WITH POOR REFUGEES WHO TELL OF HUNDREDS OF DEATHS CAUSED BY "THOUSANDS" OF SOVIET HELICOPTERS, JETS AND TANKS, ESPECIALLY IN WARDAK. THEIR ARRIVAL COINCIDED WITH THE DEATHS LAST WEEK OF AT LEAST TWO SOVIETS, INCLUDING A CIVILIAN DOCTOR. (THE SOVIET EMBASSY SENT AN OFFICER TO THE WEEKLY UNITED NATIONS SECURITY MEETING ON JULY 31 TO REPORT THIS AND TO WARN UN PERSONNEL TO BE MORE CAREFUL IN MOVING ABOUT THE CITY.) MEANWHILE, AFGHAN POLICE AND ARMED PARCHAM PARTY WORKERS HAVE INTENSIFIED SPOT CHECKS OF INDIVIDUALS AND VEHICLES, ESPECIALLY TAXIS WHICH ARE SAID TO BE FAVORITE CONVEYANCES FOR ANTI-REGIME ASSASSINS.

5. PETROL STATIONS IN KABUL BEGAN ON AUGUST 1 TO LIMIT CUSTOMERS TO 5 LITERS OF GASOLINE. ON AUGUST 4, THE EMBASSY WAS TOLD THAT NO SUPPLIES WERE AVAILABLE FOR IT THROUGH THE DRA MONOPOLY. (IF PAST EXPERIENCE IS ANY GUIDE, THE SHORTAGE SHOULD BE ALLEVIATED IN A FEW DAYS BY THE ARRIVAL OF A NEW POL CONVOY FROM THE USSR.) SUPPLIES OF FIRST-QUALITY WHEAT
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AND RICE HAVE DISAPPEARED FROM KABUL MARKETS, BUT LESS DESIRABLE VARIETIES REMAIN AVAILABLE AT RELATIVELY STEADY PRICES. FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES, NOW AT PEAK SEASON, ARE PLENTIFUL.

6. SOME OF THE REFUGEES AND OTHER SOURCES WITH CONTACTS IN THE AFGHAN ARMY REPORT THAT CAPT ABDUL WAKIL HAS ASSUMED COMMAND OF THE 14TH DIVISION AT SHAZNI. WAKIL REPORTEDLY REPLACED A PARCHAMIST OFFICER SENT TO REPLACE THE ORIGINAL KHALCI COMMANDER A COUPLE OF WEEKS AGO. THE SOURCES CONTINUE TO INSIST THAT AT LEAST TWO UNITS OF THE DIVISION DEFECTED TO THE RESISTANCE, AND SAY THAT THE REMAINING OFFICERS HAVE AGREED TO WORK UNDER WAKIL. ONE RELATIVE OF AN EMBASSY SA (PROTECT) WHO ARRIVED FROM WARDAK ON AUGUST 2 REPORTED THAT A SOVIET COMMANDER OF THE FORCES PULLING OUT FROM THAT PROVINCE GATHERED VILLAGERS TOGETHER AND AFTER PASSING OUT

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GIFTS OF RUSSIAN SHOES WARNED HIS AUDIENCE AGAINST FURTHER RESISTANCE TO THE KARMAI REGIME. HE ASSERTED THAT HIS TROOPS HAD BEEN LENIENT DURING THEIR SWEEP OF THE PROVINCE AND THREATENED TO HAVE "NO MERCY" IF THEY HAD TO RETURN TO SEE FURTHER RESISTANCE ACTIVITY.

7. AFGHAN AND AMERICAN (STRICTLY PROTECT) SOURCES WITH GOOD CONTACTS IN HERAT INFORMED US ON AUGUST 2 THAT CITY HAD EXPERIENCED A FRESH OUTBREAK OF FIGHTING IN THE PAST TWO DAYS. ONE TRAVELER CLAIMED THAT THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF MONOPOLIES FOR HERAT AND THE COMMANDER OF THE SHAR-I-NAL POLICE STATION THERE (BOTH PARCHAMISTS) WERE ASSASSINATED AT THEIR HOMES ON AUGUST 1. THE INDIAN AMBASSADOR SAID ON AUGUST 3 THAT HIS CONSUL IN JALALABAD HAD JUST REPORTED RENEWED TROUBLES IN THAT CITY IN THE WAKE OF THE DISMISSAL OF THE KHALQI GOVERNOR OF NANGRAHAR. HE ALSO CLAIMED TO HAVE SEEN A SOVIET ARMORED COLUMN HEADED IN THAT DIRECTION ON AUGUST 3.

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8. DRA MEDIA ON AUGUST 2 AND 3 GAVE TOP BILLING TO A BRKHTAR NEWS AGENCY STORY ALLEGING THAT CBS NEWS COMMENTATOR WALTER CRONKITE (DESCRIBED AS A "RUTHLESS CRIMINAL") WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEATHS OF THREE WORKERS ON A CANAL PROJECT IN NANGRAHAR PROVINCE BETWEEN KABUL AND JALALABAD. VENTING ITS SPLEEN AGAINST "SATANIC ANTI-HUMAN IMPERIALISTS," THE DRA AGENCY CHARGED THAT CRONKITE HAD "DISAPPEARED" AT SOME UNSPECIFIED TIME TO UNDERTAKE A "SACRED NATIONAL MISSION FOR PAKISTAN, LEADING A GROUP OF SIX JOURNALISTS" INTO AFGHANISTAN. IN WHAT APPARENTLY REFERRED TO DAN RATHER'S TRIP TO EASTERN PAKISTAN IN THE SPRING, THE ARTICLE ASSERTED THAT "DEAN DRYSER, THE HANGMAN, AND HIS CRIMINAL HENCHMEN" ORDERED THE MURDER OF THE THREE WORKERS "IN ACCORDANCE WITH CIA METHODS." AFTER TORTURING THE MEN, THE AMERICANS ALLEGEDLY "ISSUED THE ORDER THAT THE WORKERS BE STONED AND SUBSEQUENTLY BEHEADED IN AN 'ISLAMIC' MANNER."

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SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSC-00 INRE-00 HA-05 ACDA-12
CMR-01 TRSE-00 SSM-03 SSN-02 RP-10 SR-04 OCT-02
SY-05 /136 W

-----030941 052312Z /61

O R 041300Z AUG 80

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1937

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BEIJING

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

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AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 KABUL 2271

9. DESPITE THEIR POLICIES OF NON-RECOGNITION OF THE KARMAL
REGIME, IRAQ AND TURKEY GRANTED AGREEMENT TO DRA AMBASSADORS
ON AUGUST 3. (YUGOSLAVIA HAS NOT YET RESPONDED TO A SIMILAR
REQUEST.) TWO DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES MAINTAIN THAT THEY WERE
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TOLD BY THE MFA THAT DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SARWARI (A KHALQI)
IS DEFINITELY GOING TO MONGOLIA AS AMBASSADOR SHORTLY. A DRA

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ANNOUNCEMENT ON AUGUST 3 THAT MONEY HAD BEEN ALLOCATED FOR THE
OPENING OF AN EMBASSY IN ULAAN BATOR. LENT SOME CREDENCE TO
THEIR CONTENTION. THE TURKISH AMBASSADOR ADDED THAT HE WAS
TOLD BY THE CHIEF OF PROTOCOL THAT FOUR MORE ENVOYS WOULD BE
ANNOUNCED "SOON." THE INDIAN AMBASSADOR, SAYING THAT HE HAD
HEARD THE SAME THING, ADDED THAT HE WAS TOLD THAT ALL FOUR
COULD BE SENIOR MEMBERS OF THE KHALQ WING OF THE PDPA, BUT HE
WAS UNABLE TO PROVIDE NAMES.

C. AFTER INFORMING THE EMBASSY THAT THE DRA WANTED NO MORE
AMERICANS ADDED TO THE STAFF, THE MFA ON AUGUST 2 FINALLY
AGREED TO ISSUE VISAS TO REPLACEMENT PERSONNEL. HE NOW
COUNT SOME 45 AMERICANS IN THE COUNTRY.
RIPPIN.

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